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From: Charlie Dean
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Re: Answer to Advent Lutheran Church Answer to Mr. Deans Initial Appeal Documents

To the Members of the Synod Council:

Although Officers of ALC (“Officers”) exceeded the 5-page limit, I raise no objection.

Officers argue that since “the minutes of Church Council Meetings are NOT created on [church] computers” it is acceptable for e-copies of non-exempt church documents to be accessible only to a select few Officers and excluded (censored) from the rest of the congregation. After all we have been through, Officers continue to try to justify censorship.

Officers attempt to retry the case, i.e., raising new arguments of how to enlarge their authority under Ch. 12 of ALC’s Constitution; Officers’ new argument should not be allowed, however Ch. 12 does not give Officers the authority to censor any non-exempt documents, nor to control a church member’s website in the form of a spoof or parody to draw attention to accusations of censorship and abuse of authority. Officers refer to “The evidence as presented to you on disk on February 14, 2012.” This new evidence only came about because of its exculpatory nature and because it had been originally withheld from me. Officers have no right to use new evidence either offensively or defensively. Officers’ arguments should be limited to rebuttal only.

Officers make numerous claims with no factual basis whatsoever:

- **Officers argue** that my intent to represent gays and lesbians in their “challenges to three of the Amendments to the ALC Constitution” is not related to this appeal. By Pastor Beck’s admission, all my letters sent to the Synod office and to Bishop Mark S. Hanson had put the leadership in a “bad light” with no exception made for the gay and lesbian representation.

- **Officers argue** that “every attempt was made” to channel my concerns to the “appropriate board,” when in fact Officers tried to keep me isolated and this is what I was complaining about. Tim Heine’s typical action towards me can be seen in his private and flippant email in response to Mark Bathe’s mass email, “Now that was entertaining. Thanks Mark. (you are eligible to run for vp again this year).” (20110802 - Email c copy of Dean em to cong and member response 6.pdf) The same can be seen in Tim’s email to Cathy Tiemann, “I’m so fed up with him...” (“20110802 - Email.pdf”)
- **Officers argue** that “Google searches of ALC would bring you to this site, not the official website of ALC – adventhouston.org.” There is no evidence that a Google search for *Advent Lutheran Church* could possibly rank my Website in a way that comes even close to the ranking of adventhouston.org. Unless one knew the proper wording to put into a Google search, or had specific knowledge of how to go beyond a regular Google search, the Website I built was hard to locate without having its URL.
- **Officers argue** “it was never the desire of the leadership of ALC to invoke the Chapter 15 process against Mr. Dean.” Church leaders helped Tim Heine skate through the process and voted unanimously. It was my letter of October 18, 2011 that jumpstarted the Ch. 15 process, and certainly Officers desired this to be done.
- **Officers**, even at this late stage, **continue to evade** accusations of abuse of authority, the spark that ignited the Ch. 15 process. Officers adopt moral superiority with their representation of “a very conservative congregation” that derives from “a part of the old

Southern District,” but this is no license to abuse one’s authority.

- **Officers argue** that Betty Louis, “the person who made the motion to exclude [(me)] from membership, … did so out of her love for ALC.” The only available evidence shows that Betty was motivated by being in a “bad light” and her act was retribution.

Among many problems with this case, perhaps the most significant with respect to this appeal is the Officers’ inability to explain the lack of any real admonition and their deceptive and sly manner of helping Tim Heine game the system. I was denied agency and principle and any basic, essential quality needed to address my accusations. Officers’ goal was to eliminate me as quickly and as quietly as possible. Officers failed to follow their own rules and this should make their decision on 12/20/2011 a nullity, their moral high ground of southern conservative positions notwithstanding.

I encourage the Synod Council to review my letter of October 18, 2011, and especially the “Going it alone” section.

This concludes my response.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Dean